

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 04780 171026Z

43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 /149 W

----- 050110

R 170900Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9513

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 4780

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, LA

SUBJ: SOUPHANOUVONG'S 18-POINT POLITICAL PROGRAM

REF: VIENTIANE 4698

1. AS REPORTED IN REFTTEL, PGNU CABINET JUNE 12 FORMED "AD HOC COMMISSION" TO STUDY 18-POINT POLITICAL PROGRAM, REGULATIONS ON DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS, AND OTHER PROPOSALS PASSED BY JOINT NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL (JNPC) MAY 24.

2. MEMBER OF AD HOC COMMISSION AND MINISTER OF JUSTICE, KHAMKING SOUVANLASY, TOLD PRESS JUNE 14 THAT COMMISSION'S FIRST MEETING WOULD BE HELD JUNE 17 TO ESTABLISH BODY'S WORKING PROCEDURES. KHAMKING SAID CABINET HAD DIRECTED COMMISSION TO STUDY JNPC PROPOSALS "LINE BY LINE," AND TO REQUEST CLARIFICATION OF OBSCURE POINTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF JNPC. ANY PROVISIONS WHICH AD HOC COMMISSION DID NOT UNANIMOUSLY APPROVE, ACCORDING TO KHAMKING, WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO FULL CABINET MEETING.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 04780 171026Z

3. ALTHOUGH NOT FORMALLY EMBODIED AS PART OF THE

CABINET DECISION, IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT PROPAGANDA EFFORTS BY JNPC TO PROMOTE SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSALS ADOPTED MAY 24 WOULD BE SUSPENDED UNTIL THE AD HOC COMMISSION HAD COMPLETED ITS STUDIES AND PRESENTED ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PGNU CABINET. SEVERAL VIENTIANE SIDE CABINET MEMBERS ASSURED US AFTER THE CABINET MEETING THAT THIS WOULD BE THE CASE.

4. HOWEVER, ON JUNE 15 A "JNPC SPECIAL COMMITTEE" BEGAN TO VISIT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE VIENTIANE AREA, INCLUDING TEACHER TRAINING CENTER, LAW AND MEDICAL SCHOOLS, AND VIENTIANE LYCEE, WITH STATED PURPOSE OF "SAMPLING POPULAR OPINION ON THE JNPC PROPOSALS." THIS "OPINION SURVEY" IS TO CONTINUE UNTIL JUNE 27.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH IN MORE SOPHISTICATED WESTERN COUNTRIES THERE MAY BE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "PROMOTING SUPPORT FOR JNPC PROPOSALS" AND "TAKING OPINION SURVEYS" ON THEM, IN LAOS THE OUTCOME WILL PROBABLY BE THE SAME; I.E., THE ILLUSION OF POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THOSE MEASURES. THE VIENTIANE SIDE WILL, OF COURSE, BE REPRDRENTED ON THE JNPC SPECIAL COMMITTEE, BUT SINCE THE INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED HAVE ALREADY GIVEN UNANIMOUS SUPPORT TO THE JNPC PROPOSALS, THEY CAN SCARECELY NOW PRESENT A CASE TO REVISE THEM. IN EFFECT LPF EFFORTS TO GENERATE POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE JNPC PROPOSALS APPEAR TO HAVE BEGUN, IN VIOLATION OF THE UNDERSTANDING THAT NO SUCH MOVES WOULD GET UNDERWAY UNTIL CABINET AD HOC COMMISSION HAD STUDIED PROPOSALS.
CHAPMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, POLICIES, COALITION GOVERNMENT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL LEADERS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI04780
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740156-1100
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740637/aaaabfzw.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VIENTIANE 4698
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUPHANOUVONG'S 18-POINT POLITICAL PROGRAM
TAGS: PGOV, LA, PGNU, LPF, JNPC, (SOUPHANOUVONG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005